GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:154
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
VACANT POSTS OF SCIENTISTS IN DRDO
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of posts of scientists are lying vacant in Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO);

(b) if so, the detailed reasons for high rate of attrition and the adverse impact on development of new products and defence warfare systems;

(c) whether in absence of better salary and perks, facilities and flexibility, the interest of scientists in DRDO is declining; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to check attrition of scientists from DRDO?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) Presently, the strength of scientists in DRDO is 6872 against a sanctioned strength of 7255 scientists. This minimal shortfall are being filled up with the annual recruitment.

(b) The attrition rate of scientists from DRDO is only marginally higher than that in private sector industries. Scientists who had resigned have indicated personal/domestic ground as the reason for leaving DRDO. However, it is assumed that increased opportunities available in private sector industries is the major reason of such attrition. There has been no substantial impact of such attrition on development of new products and defence warfare systems.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. After the Fifth Pay Commission, some incentives were given to the scientists which include two additional increments and Professional Update Allowance. In addition, Pay Scales and other allowances/incentives has been submitted to the Sixth Pay Commission.